

In the Claims:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method for registering a subscriber unit with a home agent in a
2 cellular system, the method comprising:

3 storing addresses for a plurality of home agents in the subscriber unit, wherein the plurality of
4 home agents includes a primary home agent and a plurality of secondary home agents;
5 attempting registration with the primary home agent;
6 failing to achieve registration with the primary home agent;
7 the subscriber unit selecting a secondary home agent from the the plurality of secondary home agents
8 in an attempt to balance load among the plurality of secondary home agents; and
9 attempting registration with the secondary home agent.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprises:

2 the subscriber unit rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first
3 secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent.

1 3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

2 attempting registration with the first secondary home agent;
3 failing to achieve registration with the first secondary home agent; and
4 attempting registration with the second secondary home agent.

1 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the subscriber unit rank ordering
2 the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary
3 home agent comprises:

4 the subscriber unit generating a random number; and
5 the subscriber unit using the random number to rank order the plurality of secondary home
6 agents.

1 5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the subscriber unit rank ordering
2 the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary
3 home agent comprises:

4 the subscriber unit determining a current date; and
5 the subscriber unit using the current date to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

1 6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the subscriber unit rank ordering
2 the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary
3 home agent comprises:

4 the subscriber unit determining a current time; and
5 the subscriber unit using the current time to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of addresses for the home agents
2 stored in the subscriber unit is programmed by a service provider prior to delivering the subscriber unit to
3 its subscriber.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of addresses for the home agents
2 stored in the subscriber unit is programmed by the service provider using over the air access.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least some of the plurality of addresses for
2 the home agents stored in the subscriber unit is reprogrammed by the service provider using over the air
3 access.

1 10. (Previously Presented) A method for registering a subscriber unit with a home agent in a
2 cellular system, the method comprising:

3 storing addresses for a plurality of home agents in the subscriber unit, wherein the plurality of
4 home agents includes a primary home agent and a plurality of secondary home agents;

5 attempting registration with the primary home agent;

6 failing to achieve registration with the primary home agent;

7 the subscriber unit rank ordering the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first
8 secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent in an attempt to balance load among the
9 plurality of secondary home agents; and

10 attempting registration with the first secondary home agent.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

2 failing to achieve registration with the first secondary home agent; and

3 attempting registration with the second secondary home agent

1 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the subscriber unit rank ordering
2 the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary
3 home agent comprises:

4 the subscriber unit generating a random number; and

5 the subscriber unit using the random number to rank order the plurality of secondary home
6 agents.

1 13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the subscriber unit rank ordering
2 the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary
3 home agent comprises:

4 the subscriber unit determining a current date; and

5 the subscriber unit using the current date to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

1 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the subscriber unit rank ordering
2 the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary
3 home agent comprises:

4 the subscriber unit determining a current time; and

5 the subscriber unit using the current time to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

- 1 15. (Currently Amended) A subscriber unit that operates within a cellular system, the
2 subscriber unit comprising:
3 an antenna;
4 a radio frequency unit coupled to the antenna; and
5 at least one digital processor coupled to the radio frequency unit that executes software
6 instructions causing the subscriber unit to:
7 store addresses for a plurality of home agents in the subscriber unit, wherein the plurality of home
8 agents includes a primary home agent and a plurality of secondary home agents;
9 attempt registration with the primary home agent;
10 failing to achieve registration with the primary home agent;
11 select a secondary home agent from the ~~the~~ plurality of secondary home agents in an attempt to
12 balance load among the plurality of secondary home agents; and
13 attempt registration with the secondary home agent.
- 1 16. (Previously Presented) The subscriber unit of claim 15, wherein execution of the software
2 instructions further causes the subscriber unit to:
3 rank order the plurality of secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a
4 second secondary home agent.
- 1 17. (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 16, wherein execution of the software instructions
2 further causes the subscriber unit to:
3 attempt registration with the first secondary home agent;
4 fail to achieve registration with the first secondary home agent; and
5 attempt registration with the second secondary home agent.
- 1 18. (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 17, wherein in rank ordering the plurality of
2 secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent,
3 execution of the software instructions further causes the subscriber unit to:
4 generate a random number; and
5 use the random number to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

1 19. (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 17, wherein in rank ordering the plurality of
2 secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent,
3 execution of the software instructions further causes the subscriber unit to:

4 determine a current date; and
5 use the current date to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

1 20. (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 17, wherein in rank ordering the plurality of
2 secondary home agents into at least a first secondary home agent and a second secondary home agent,
3 execution of the software instructions further causes the subscriber unit to:

4 determine a current time; and
5 use the current time to rank order the plurality of secondary home agents.

1 21. (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 15, wherein the plurality of addresses for the
2 home agents stored in the subscriber unit is programmed by a service provider prior to delivering the
3 subscriber unit to its subscriber.

1 22. (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 15, wherein the plurality of addresses for the
2 home agents stored in the subscriber unit is programmed by the service provider using over the air access.

1 23. (Original) The subscriber unit of claim 15, wherein at least some of the plurality of
2 addresses for the home agents stored in the subscriber unit is reprogrammed by the service provider using
3 over the air access.